

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 151420Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5373

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 1219

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, AR, UY

SUBJ: BORDABERRY VISIT PRODUCES NO SURPRISES

1. SUMMARY: IN A DAY FILLED WITH POMP AND CEREMONY BUT NO MAJOR NEW GOA/GOU AGREEMENTS, PRESIDENTS PERON AND BORDABERRY LOOKED ON AS THEIR FOREIGN MINISTERS SIGNED AND EXCHANGED THE FORMAL INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION FOR THE RIVER PLATE TREATY AND SIGNED TWO AGREEMENTS ON ENERGY MATTERS. IN A JOINT STATEMENT THE TWO LEADERS PROMISED TO SPEED UP THE PROCESS OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION. END SUMMARY.

2. FROM HIS ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES, WHERE HE WAS MET BY PRESIDENT PERON AND NUMEROUS OTHER HIGH GOA OFFICIALS, BORDABERRY WAS ACCORDED LAVISH CEREMONIAL ATTENTION BY THE GOA. PERON CAPPED THE PROTOCOLARY ASPECTS OF THE VISIT BY PRESENTING BORDABERRY WITH THE ORDER OF SAN MARTIN THE LIBERATOR, AN AWARD HE SAID WAS GIVEN ONLY TO ARGENTINA'S "TRUE FRIENDS."

3. THE TWO PRESIDENTS HAD EARLIER LOOKED ON AS THEIR FOREIGN
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MINISTERS SIGNED AND EXCHANGED THE FINAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO

GIVE EFFECT TO THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED RIVER PLATE BOUNDARY TREATY. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS ALSO SIGNED TWO OTHER MINOR AGREEMENTS DEALING WITH ENERGY MATTERS (A HOUSEKEEPING AGREEMENT RE SALTO GRANDE AND AN AGREEMENT RE THE INTERCONNECTION OF POWER GRIDS).

4. SPECULATION THAT PERON AND BORDABERRY WOULD USE THE OCCASION TO SIGN A FAR-REACHING AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROVED GROUNDLESS. IN A JOINT STATEMENT, THE TWO LEADERS DID, HOWEVER, PROMISE TO SPEED UP EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE NEW MEASURES OF INTEGRATION, SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING THE ELIMINATION OF CUSTOMS BARRIERS AS A MUTUALLY SHARED GOAL.

5. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT MEETINGS IN PUNTA DEL ESTE BETWEEN BORDABERRY AND KEY GOA CABINET MINISTERS FAILED TO NAIL DOWN A NEW ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AGREEMENT IN TIME FOR BORDABERRY'S VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES. HOWEVER, IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE GOA WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK "INTERGRATION" AGREEMENT WITH URUGUAY AS MUCH FOR THEIR GEOPOLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE VIS-A-VIS BRAZIL AS FOR THEIR ECONOMIC VALUE.
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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, AR, UY, (BORDABERRY AROCENA, JUAN MARIA), (PERON, JUAN)
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